

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 05055 210419Z
ACTION HA-05

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R 200845Z FEB 78 ZDK
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 028
INFO AMCONGEN HONG KONG

UNCLAS BANGKOK 5055

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SREF
SUBJ: IPP-77 LAND CAMP PROGRAM

REF: STATE 43060

1. NOT TO WORRY. CURRENTLY THERE ARE ONLY 2954 YET TO BE APPROVED REFUGEES OUT OF THE 8000 SPACES RESERVED FOR THE INLAND CAMP PROGRAM UNDER IPP-77. WE EXPECT TO ALLOCATE ALL 8000 NUMBERS BY MID-MARCH.

2. INCLUDING SOME 1000 REFUGEES IN CATEGORY III (AND IN CATEGORY IV DEPENDENT ON CATEGORY III), INS OFFICERS HAD APPROVED 5046 REFUGEES UNDER IPP-77 AS OF FEBRUARY 16. WE HAVE NOT YET REQUESTED ALIEN NUMBERS TO REACH THIS TOTAL, HOWEVER. THERE ARE TWO REASONS: THE FILES HAVE TO REACH BANGKOK FROM REMOTE SPOTS UPCOUNTRY AND BE TABULATED AFTER ARRIVAL; WE ARE NOT YET REQUESTING NUMBERS FOR THE CONDITIONALLY APPROVED CATEGORY III REFUGEES. IN ANY ONE WEEK THERE COULD BE 1000 MORE INS APPROVALS FOR CATEGORY I AND II REFUGEES THAN REQUESTS FOR ALIEN NUMBERS.

3. INS OFFICERS HAVE BEEN KEEPING UP AN EXTREMELY RAPID PACE WHICH DOES NOT REFLECT ITSELF IN STATISTICS UNTIL SEVERAL DAYS AFTER THE FACT. THERE IS NO NEED TO ACCELERATE THE PACE FOR APPROVALS. ASIDE FROM MINOR DIGESTIVE AND RESPIRATORY AILMENTS, THE HEALTH OF THE INS OFFICERS HAS BEEN FINE. ALL FOUR INS OFFICERS IN
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COUNTRY HAVE BEEN ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THE COMPLETENESS OF THE FILES.

4. WE APPRECIATE THE AUTHORIZATION IN PARA FOUR OF REFTEL FOR LOCAL DETERMINATION OF TIMING FOR CONFERRING REMAINING ALIEN NUMBERS ON CONDITIONALLY APPROVED CATEGORY III. CASES. BY CURRENT ESTIMATE WE WILL HAVE APPROXIMATELY 3000 SPACES FOR CATEGORY III REFUGEES. THAT FIGURE INCLUDES THE SOME 1000 CATEGORY III REFUGEES

AND CATEGORY IV REFUGEES DEPENDENT ON CATEGORY III WHO HAVE ALREADY BEEN CONDITIONALLY APPROVED. THERE HAS BEEN A CONSIDERABLE DROPOUT OF POTENTIALLY ELIGIBLE CATEGORY I REFUGEES BECAUSE OF OPIUM ADDICTION AMONG THE HMONG (AS CONFIRMED BY URINALYSIS); AND BECAUSE OF DEPARTURE FOR THIRD COUNTRIES, PRINCIPALLY FRANCE.

5. AS WE NEAR THE ALLOCATION OF THE LAST SEVERAL HUNDRED NUMBERS UNDER THE INLAND CAMP PROGRAM, WE WILL REQUIRE DAILY TELEPHONE CALLS FROM THE FIELD TO INSURE THAT WE MEET AND STAY WITHIN THE 8000 LIMIT.

WHITEHOUSE

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